



# DECATUR MIDDLE SCHOOL

5108 S. High School Rd.  
 Indianapolis, IN 46221  
**Principal:** Kyle Barrentine  
**Asst. Principal/Imagine:**  
 Adam Allen  
**Asst. Principal/Apex:**  
 Melissa Harvey  
**Explorations SLC Dir.:**  
 Stacy O'Brien  
**Global SLC Dir.:**  
 Maren Kula  
 Phone: 317-856-5274  
 Fax: 317-856-2163  
 Website:  
[www.decaturlproud.org/](http://www.decaturlproud.org/)  
[decaturlproud.org/](http://decaturlproud.org/)

# Hawk Highlights

ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 23, 2016



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- September 30—JobSpark Fair (8th Graders Only)
- September 26-30—College Go Week & Scholastic Book Fair
- November 10—Indianapolis International Festival (Global SLC Only)

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## Barrentine's Billboard

Hard to believe, but the first quarter of 2016-17 is done!! We have two weeks until Fall Break and we plan to make those two weeks the best of the year so far. Here are four things that I'd like for you to know:

- It can be challenging for our students to get a good night's rest every night of the week. If your son or daughter is involved in extracurricular activities, he or she may not arrive back at home until later in the evening. One thing that I have done at home that has helped my kids get a better night's rest is to have them power down their phones/iPads. Not only do we power them down, but their phones also are placed on the kitchen counter where they charge all night long. With no chance of receiving that most important text message, I have found my kids getting a much better night of sleep.
- Regular, on-time school attendance is so important for your child. Our first period starts at 7:45, so it is critical for our students to arrive at school no later than 7:30ish. If your children ride the bus, they have 15 minutes to grab breakfast, go to their lockers, and get to first period. If you bring your child to school, our doors open at 7 a.m. Please plan to have them here by 7:30.
- On **Wednesday, September 28** and **Thursday, September 29**, school will dismiss at 1:45 p.m. in order to have time to conduct student-led conferences. Club Phoenix will be operating on those two days, but please be sure to communicate with your child what their after-school plans are for these two days.
- Thank you to all of you who participated in the PTO trash bag fundraiser this year. We were able to raise about \$2,000 for our students and staff. Trash bags will be here for pick up on Wednesday, September 28 and Thursday, September 19.

Have a great weekend!

- Kyle Barrentine, Principal

The core mission of this school is the creation of highly engaging activities, materials, and settings for learning that are too good—too interesting—for students to resist AND increases student achievement.

The MSD of Decatur Township is Student Invested, Community Connected. We prioritize Student Learning, Safety and Customer Service, fostering a support system for our families.



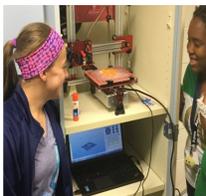
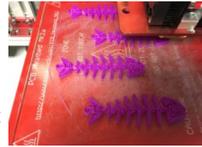
It is the Board's commitment to provide a safe, positive, productive and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. Any individual who believes a student has been or is the victim of discrimination, bullying, or harassment should report the situation to the building principal or designee or complete the School District's Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying report form, which is available online at [www.msddecatur.k12.in.us](http://www.msddecatur.k12.in.us).

# Apex SLC News



The Apex Community would like to sincerely thank **TREG HOPKINS**, site director of the Ivy Tech Mooresville campus, for his contribution to education! Mr. Hopkins heard that "Math on the iPad could be so much easier if students have their own stylus." He donated enough styli for every staff and student in the Apex Community to have their own. Thank you Mr. Hopkins for making an impact!

8th grade APEX learners are experiencing 3D printers! Facilitators spent an afternoon at 1st Maker Space learning about utilizing 3D printing in the classroom and were granted FOUR 3D printers.



Learners are motivated to work with this amazing technology and discover its various application options in projects.

7th grade learners have been working on Exciting Engineering. They are working through the design process in preparation for designing their own experiment to test the validity of a product. The students designed a method to transport water to two separate containers that



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# Explorations SLC News

In Mr. Manring's class with the help of Mr. Van Y, 8th grade science students investigated whether bowling balls float. They discovered that 10 pound bowling balls actually do! Students have been studying density and made a column of layers based on the density of different liquids.

8th grade US History students have been completing Quarter I activities focused on Early Exploration and Colonization of North America. Students have been seeking answers to questions like, "Why did Europeans come here?" We have also been reading The Carter Journals written by Shane Phipps. Mr. Phipps is a teacher in the Global Small Learning Community.



7th grade Pre-Algebra students in Mrs. Serrianne's class have been working on operations with fractions. This includes adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions applied to real-world applications.



iTime: Some students have applied to be a part of our Student Lounge Design Team. Applications were reviewed and some students were interviewed. Eight students were selected to be part of the team. These students will be designing a student lounge for Explorations students to access throughout the school day. The Student Lounge Design Team will be announced soon.

High Dive Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: Twenty-five Explorations students attended the High Dive Ribbon Cutting



Ceremony at DCHS on Tuesday, September 21, 2016. Olympian and Decatur Central graduate, Amy Cozad, cut the ribbon and performed the initial dive off the new 3-meter diving board. Amy conveyed the message that anyone can achieve their dreams as long as they keep working toward the goal.

**Student-led Conferences:** Student-led conferences will be conducted on September 28 or 29. A Student-led conference is a conference where students lead the conference by explaining their academic progress this school year. Please check with your child's STAR teacher to see when your conference is scheduled.

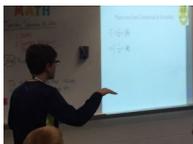
# Global SLC News



To review for the upcoming 1st quarter math common assessment, Mrs. Davis' 7th grade students played math poker. If students ran out of "money," they had to complete silly tasks, like walking like an Egyptian. Students were engaged while refining their skills at the same time.

DCHS Choice Academy students taught Global students about service learning this past week. According to the National Youth Leadership Council, "service-learning is an approach to teaching and learning in which students use academic knowledge and skills to address genuine community needs."

- Picking up trash on a riverbank is service.
- Studying water samples under a



microscope is learning.

- When science students collect and analyze water samples, document their results, and present findings to a local pollution control agency—that is **service-learning**. (Source: <https://nylc.org/service-learning/>)

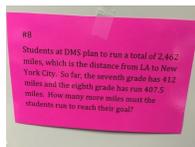
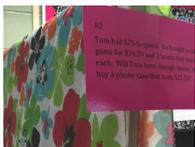
The next step is to join forces with Choice Academy for fall service projects. Stay tuned, Global students and parents!

In Mrs. Hammonds' 8th grade science class, students investigated how liquids with varying densities interact with one another in order to build colorful vertical columns. (Liquids were dyed different colors in order to help students distinguish between the various densities.) Students crafted hypotheses, conducted background research, tested out their hypotheses, and drew conclusions based upon data.



# Imagine SLC News

In 7th grade our students are hard at work in Math. Students in Mrs. Tiffany's class completed a gallery walk with real world based scenarios. Students had to solve each math problem posted throughout the room and then move to the next equation after checking their work! Our students really enjoyed being up and moving while solving real world equations!



Diving with an Olympian!!! 8th grade student Emma Gentry was able to be a part of the High Dive Ribbon Cutting ceremony at Decatur Central High School this week. At the ceremony, Emma was able to meet Decatur Central High School Alumni and Olympian Amy Cozad! Emma was also able to complete several dives with Amy Cozad in front of her fellow DMS peers as well as elementary students throughout the district.



**Reminder Parents**—Student-led conference will be on September 28th and 29th! We look forward to seeing you and showcasing our use of iPads in the classroom, S.W.A.G. Goal Sheets and our new Learning Management System—Canvas!

As a reminder, don't forget to follow us on Twitter [@ImagineDms](https://twitter.com/ImagineDms) and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/dmsimagine/> to see all of the great things going on in our SLC!

# College Road Trip

On Saturday, September 17th, 40 DMS students, parents and staff went on a college road trip to downtown Indianapolis to visit IUPUI's campus. The group took a tour of the campus, with a stop at the Student Center and book store. After that, it was off to dinner at Pizza Hut and then an Indy 11 soccer game. Be on the look out for more college road trips after Fall Break.



# Calendar of Events

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>26</p> <p>4:30pm—Girls Golf vs. Perry Meridian &amp; Southport @ Southport</p> <p>5:15pm—7/8 Volleyball vs. Chapel Hill</p> <p>5:15pm—7/8 B Football @ Southport</p> <p>5:15pm—Girls Soccer @ Plainfield</p> <p>5:15pm—Tennis @ Raymond Park</p> <p>6:45pm—Boys Soccer @ Plainfield</p>	<p>27</p> <p>4:30pm—Boys Golf vs. Perry Meridian @ Eagle Pines</p> <p>5:15pm—Girls Soccer @ Heritage Christian</p> <p>6:45pm—Boys Soccer @ Heritage Christian</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Student-Led Conferences</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Student-Led Conferences</p> <p>4:30pm—Boys/Girls Golf @ Greenwood</p> <p>5:15pm—7/8 Volleyball @ Southport</p> <p>5:15pm—Cross Country vs. Plainfield &amp; Beech Grove @ DMS</p> <p>5:30pm—7/8 A Football @ Greenwood</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9:30am—Cross Country—Chapel Hill Invitational (Country)</p>
<p>3</p> <p>6:30pm—PTO Meeting—DMS Cafeteria</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:00pm—Girls Soccer vs. Paul Hadley</p> <p>5:15pm—Tennis @ Guion Creek</p> <p>6:30pm—Boys Soccer vs. Paul Hadley</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:15pm—Cross Country Mid-State Conference @ Clark-Pleasant</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:30pm—7 A/B Football @ Martinsville</p> <p>5:30pm—Girls Soccer Mid-State Finals @ Plainfield</p> <p>5:45pm—8 A/B Football vs. Martinsville</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>

## 21st Century Scholars

Indiana's 21st Century Scholars program offers income-eligible Hoosier students up to four years of paid tuition at an eligible Indiana college or university after they graduate from high school, dependent upon financial need. In middle and high school, Scholars are connected to programs and resources to help them stay on track for college and career success. Once in college, Scholars receive support to complete their college degrees and connect to career opportunities. 7th and 8th grade Indiana students whose families meet income eligibility guidelines can apply to become a 21st Century Scholar.



Apply online at [Scholars.IN.gov](http://Scholars.IN.gov) and provide:

- Student's Social Security Number, date of birth and address.
- Parent or guardian's Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, if applicable.
- 2015 gross income amounts for all members of the household. If applying after December 31, 2016, use 2016 gross income.
- A valid email address (free email accounts are available at Yahoo.com, Gmail.com, Hotmail.com and Live.com)

If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact Gail Barrett, School Counselor, at 856-5274 ext. 8014 or call the 21st Century Scholars helpline at 1-888-528-4719.